

Bateman	Farr	Latham	Reynolds	Shuster	Tiaht
Becerra	Fattah	LaTourette	Riley	Simpson	Tierney
Bentsen	Filner	Lazio	Rivers	Sisisky	Toomey
Bereuter	Fletcher	Leach	Rodriguez	Skeen	Towns
Berkley	Foley	Lee	Roemer	Skelton	Trafcant
Berman	Forbes	Levin	Rogan	Slaughter	Turner
Berry	Ford	Lewis (CA)	Rogers	Smith (MI)	Udall (CO)
Biggert	Fossella	Lewis (GA)	Rohrabacher	Smith (NJ)	Udall (NM)
Billbray	Fowler	Lewis (KY)	Ros-Lehtinen	Smith (TX)	Upton
Billirakis	Frank (MA)	Linder	Rothman	Snyder	Velazquez
Bishop	Franks (NJ)	Lipinski	Roukema	Souder	Visclosky
Blagojevich	Frelinghuysen	LoBiondo	Roybal-Allard	Spence	Vitter
Blumenauer	Frost	Lofgren	Royce	Spratt	Walden
Blunt	Galleghy	Lowe	Rush	Stabenow	Walsh
Boehlert	Ganske	Lucas (KY)	Ryan (WI)	Stark	Wamp
Boehner	Gejdenson	Lucas (OK)	Ryan (KS)	Stearns	Waters
Bonilla	Gekas	Luther	Sabo	Stenholm	Watkins
Bonior	Gephardt	Maloney (CT)	Salmon	Strickland	Watt (NC)
Bono	Gibbons	Maloney (NY)	Sanchez	Stump	Watts (OK)
Borski	Gilchrest	Manzullo	Sandlin	Stupak	Waxman
Boucher	Gillmor	Markey	Sanford	Sununu	Weiner
Boyd	Gilman	Martinez	Sawyer	Sweeney	Weldon (FL)
Brady (PA)	Gonzalez	Mascara	Scarborough	Talent	Weldon (PA)
Brady (TX)	Goode	Matsui	Schaffer	Tancred	Wexler
Brown (FL)	Goodlatte	McCarthy (MO)	Schakowsky	Tanner	Weygand
Brown (OH)	Goodling	McCarthy (NY)	Scott	Tauscher	Whitfield
Bryant	Gordon	McCrery	Sensenbrenner	Tauzin	Wicker
Burr	Goss	McDermott	Serrano	Taylor (MS)	Wilson
Burton	Graham	McGovern	Sessions	Taylor (NC)	Wise
Buyer	Granger	McHugh	Shadegg	Terry	Wolf
Callahan	Green (TX)	McInnis	Shaw	Thomas	Woolsey
Calvert	Green (WI)	McIntyre	Shays	Thompson (CA)	Wu
Camp	Greenwood	McKeon	Sherman	Thompson (MS)	Wynn
Canady	Gutierrez	McKinney	Sherwood	Thornberry	Young (AK)
Cannon	Gutknecht	McNulty	Shimkus	Thune	Young (FL)
Capps	Hall (OH)	Meehan	Shows	Thurman	
Capuano	Hall (TX)	Meek (FL)			
Cardin	Hansen	Meeks (NY)			
Carson	Hastings (FL)	Menendez			
Castle	Hastings (WA)	Metcalfe			
Chabot	Hayes	Mica			
Chambliss	Hayworth	Millender-			
Chenoweth-Hage	Hefley	McDonald			
Clay	Herger	Miller (FL)			
Clayton	Hill (IN)	Miller, Gary			
Clement	Hill (MT)	Miller, George			
Clyburn	Hilleary	Minge			
Coble	Hilliard	Mink			
Coburn	Hinchey	Moakley			
Collins	Hinojosa	Mollohan			
Combest	Hobson	Moore			
Condit	Hoeffel	Moran (KS)			
Conyers	Hoekstra	Moran (VA)			
Cook	Holden	Morella			
Cooksey	Holt	Murtha			
Costello	Hooley	Myrick			
Cox	Horn	Nadler			
Coyne	Hostettler	Napolitano			
Cramer	Houghton	Neal			
Crane	Hoyer	Nethercutt			
Crowley	Hulshof	Ney			
Cubin	Hunter	Northup			
Cummings	Hutchinson	Norwood			
Cunningham	Hyde	Nussle			
Danner	Inslee	Oberstar			
Davis (FL)	Isakson	Obey			
Davis (IL)	Istook	Olver			
Davis (VA)	Jackson (IL)	Ortiz			
Deal	Jackson-Lee	Ose			
DeFazio	(TX)	Owens			
DeGette	Jefferson	Oxley			
Delahunt	Jenkins	Packard			
DeLauro	John	Pallone			
DeLay	Johnson (CT)	Pascarell			
DeMint	Johnson, E. B.	Pastor			
Deutsch	Johnson, Sam	Paul			
Diaz-Balart	Jones (NC)	Payne			
Dickey	Jones (OH)	Pease			
Dicks	Kanjorski	Pelosi			
Dingell	Kaptur	Peterson (MN)			
Dixon	Kasich	Peterson (PA)			
Doggett	Kelly	Petri			
Dooley	Kennedy	Phelps			
Doolittle	Kildee	Pickering			
Doyle	Kilpatrick	Pickett			
Dreier	Kind (WI)	Pitts			
Duncan	King (NY)	Pombo			
Dunn	Kingston	Pomeroy			
Edwards	Kleczka	Porter			
Ehlers	Klink	Portman			
Ehrlich	Knollenberg	Price (NC)			
Emerson	Kolbe	Pryce (OH)			
Engel	Kucinich	Quinn			
English	LaFalce	Radanovich			
Eshoo	LaHood	Rahall			
Etheridge	Lampson	Ramstad			
Evans	Lantos	Rangel			
Everett	Largent	Regula			
Ewing	Larson	Reyes			

NOT VOTING—11

Bliley	McCollum	Smith (WA)
Boswell	McIntosh	Vento
Campbell	Sanders	Weller
Kuykendall	Saxton	

□ 1554

So (two-thirds having voted in favor thereof) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

□

BEST WISHES TO SENATOR PAUL COVERDELL DURING A HEALTH CHALLENGE

(Mr. BLUNT asked and was given permission to address the House for 5 minutes and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. BLUNT. Mr. Speaker, about a year ago I began to work closely on a number of projects with Senator PAUL COVERDELL from Georgia. I just want to take some time today to express my appreciation for his great work for the House, the Senate, for America, and extend our best wishes to him and his wife, Nancy, as they deal with the challenge to his health right now.

Senator COVERDELL brings humility to this job, a humility that is rare in public office. He brings dedication, an ability to work hard, a tremendous insight, and certainly those of us in the House benefit more than we know by his hard work in the Senate, his hard work for this process.

I would like for him and his wife, Nancy, to know that we are thinking about them as he deals with this health challenge, and that we need him back here. We hope for his speedy recovery. We know that if anybody can meet this challenge in an extraordinary way, PAUL COVERDELL can.

Mr. LINDER. Mr. Speaker, will the gentleman yield?

Mr. BLUNT. I yield to the gentleman from Georgia.

Mr. LINDER. I thank the gentleman for taking this time, Mr. Speaker.

I have known PAUL COVERDELL since 1972. There was not an important project in politics or policy that went on in Georgia in the last 28 years in which he was not involved, very often very quietly, very much behind the scenes. Lynne and I have been friends with him and Nancy since they were married.

We want Nancy to know that our prayers are with them. We hope PAUL recovers and gets back here. His country needs him.

Mr. ISAKSON. Mr. Speaker, will the gentleman yield?

Mr. BLUNT. I yield to the gentleman from Georgia.

Mr. ISAKSON. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding, and I thank him for his expressions for PAUL and Nancy. I, too, have known PAUL COVERDELL for the past 25 years, and no one in our State has contributed more.

The people of the Sixth District will join me, I am sure, in their prayers and thoughts over the next few days for a speedy recovery for PAUL. As the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. LINDER) so eloquently said, his State needs him, his country needs him, and we need him in the Congress of the United States of America. He has our thoughts and our prayers today as he meets his challenges ahead.

Mr. DEAL of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, will the gentleman yield?

Mr. BLUNT. I yield to the gentleman from Georgia.

Mr. DEAL of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding, and for taking this opportunity to express our concern for Senator COVERDELL.

Like most of those of us in the Georgia delegation, we have worked with Paul for many years. I worked with him in the eighties when we were both members of the Georgia Senate. He has always been one of those conscientious individuals who dedicated himself to whatever task was before him, and he has carried that same dedication here to the United States Senate.

We wish for he and Nancy a speedy recovery, and our prayers and the prayers of those in our State will be with him.

Mr. LEWIS of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, will the gentleman yield?

Mr. BLUNT. I yield to the gentleman from Georgia.

Mr. LEWIS of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I want to thank my friend and colleague for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, I have known Senator PAUL COVERDELL for many years. We worked together in the city of Atlanta in the Fifth District. He has been very helpful and very supportive over the years.

Our prayers are with him at this time, with his family, and we wish for Senator COVERDELL a speedy recovery. We ask that the divine hands of the Almighty be with him during this hour.

Mr. BARR of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, will the gentleman yield?

Mr. BLUNT. I yield to the gentleman from Georgia.

Mr. BARR of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I thank the distinguished chief deputy majority whip for providing this time on the floor today as PAUL and his family are coping with a very serious medical illness that has befallen our colleague from Georgia on the other side of this great Capitol building.

□ 1600

PAUL COVERDELL is a man of Georgia. He is a true patriot of this country, and he works tirelessly on behalf of the people of Georgia and the United States of America. But first and foremost, he is a man of God. We ask the Lord's blessing on him and his doctors today as they cope with this very serious illness, and we ask for the prayers of all of our colleagues and all of those many millions of Americans whose very kind and gentle work and lives PAUL has touched with his work over the years.

Mr. BLUNT. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from New York (Mr. RANGEL).

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, I would like to join with my colleagues in praying for a speedy recovery of Senator COVERDELL. I have had many differences with the Senator on legislative issues, but I have not met anyone that has been more of a gentleman, more of someone that respects the other view, and someone that really respects the institution of the House and the other body.

It is times like this that we throw away the labels of Democrat and Republican and realize that God's hand is involved in everything that we do, and at a time like this, only our prayers can be of any assistance to our colleague.

Mr. BLUNT. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. CHAMBLISS).

Mr. CHAMBLISS. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding to me.

I, too, would just like to echo the sentiment of all of my colleagues. PAUL COVERDELL is a great American. Nobody does more for his country or loves this country more than PAUL COVERDELL. He is simply a great American and great individual to work with us.

Our prayers go out to PAUL and Nancy as he goes through this very difficult time. We just look forward to a very speedy recovery for PAUL and return to the United States Senate.

Mr. BLUNT. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. COLLINS).

Mr. COLLINS. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding to me. I thank him, too, for bringing this matter and this announcement before the House of Representatives.

PAUL COVERDELL is a colleague, but most of all he is a friend, a friend for

many years to many of us. In fact, PAUL COVERDELL has been a role model for many of us who followed him and served with him in the different bodies of the legislature.

When we received the call on Sunday afternoon that he had been admitted to Piedmont Hospital, our prayers began immediately, because we understood the severeness of his problem.

I hope and I pray that all of my colleagues would join us, join with the people of Georgia, the people of this Nation in praying for a speedy recovery and a full recovery of PAUL COVERDELL.

Mr. BLUNT. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. KINGSTON).

Mr. KINGSTON. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding to me.

Mr. Speaker, it is times like this and many other times when one is dealing with PAUL COVERDELL that one no longer thinks of him as a United States Senator. One does not think of him as one of the most influential men in America. One thinks of him just as PAUL, PAUL and Nancy Coverdell, two friends whom we have all worked with over the years, whom we have all known and respected.

One thing about PAUL is one may agree or disagree with him, but one always respects his energy level, his knowledge of the issue, and the way he is so focused in attacking things. We are all his friends. He is a friend of the institution, and he is a friend of the governmental process, somebody who respects everyone and has that respect both ways.

Our prayers are with him, and that is the best that we can all do at this time.

Mr. BLUNT. Mr. Speaker, I thank my friends for participating today and the indulgence of the House as we talk about a person who is really of great value to the House.

About a year ago, I was given an assignment that allowed me to work with Senator COVERDELL every week. I told the person that gave me that assignment several months ago I would have done that job in retrospect if for no other reason than to get to work with PAUL COVERDELL.

He is truly, as the gentleman from New York (Mr. RANGEL) said, one of the great gentlemen of this Congress. We need him to get our work done. We wish him well. Our prayers are with him and his family.

□

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. LAHOOD). The Chair has, under today's unusual circumstances, allowed unusual latitude in references to a sitting member of the other body.

□

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the Chair

announces that he will postpone further proceedings today on the remaining motion to suspend the rules on which a recorded vote or the yeas and nays are ordered, or on which the vote is objected to under clause 6 of rule XX.

Any record vote on postponed questions will be taken later today.

□

REMOVAL OF NAME OF MEMBER AS COSPONSOR OF H.R. 1660

Mrs. MINK of Hawaii. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to withdraw my name as a cosponsor from H.R. 1660.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Hawaii?

There was no objection.

□

DEBT RELIEF RECONCILIATION ACT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2001

Mr. NUSSLE. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 4866) to provide for reconciliation pursuant to section 103(b)(1) of the concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 2001 to reduce the public debt and to decrease the statutory limit on the public debt, as amended.

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 4866

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Debt Relief Reconciliation Act for Fiscal Year 2001".

SEC. 2. FINDINGS AND PURPOSE.

(a) FINDINGS.—The Congress finds that—

(1) fiscal discipline, resulting from the Balanced Budget Act of 1997, and strong economic growth have ended decades of deficit spending and have produced budget surpluses without using the social security surplus;

(2) fiscal pressures will mount in the future as the aging of the population increases budget obligations;

(3) until Congress and the President agree to legislation that strengthens social security, the social security surplus should be used to reduce the debt held by the public;

(4) strengthening the Government's fiscal position through public debt reduction increases national savings, promotes economic growth, reduces interest costs, and is a constructive way to prepare for the Government's future budget obligations; and

(5) it is fiscally responsible and in the long-term national economic interest to use a portion of the nonsocial security surplus to reduce the debt held by the public.

(b) PURPOSE.—It is the purpose of this Act to—

(1) reduce the debt held by the public with the goal of eliminating this debt by 2013; and

(2) decrease the statutory limit on the public debt.

SEC. 3. ESTABLISHMENT OF PUBLIC DEBT REDUCTION PAYMENT ACCOUNT.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subchapter I of chapter 31 of title 31, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following new section:

"§3114. Public debt reduction payment account

"(a) There is established in the Treasury of the United States an account to be known as the Public Debt Reduction Payment Account